

BOROUGH OF SHAFTESBURY

Annual Report of the Medical Officer of Health
for the Year 1944.

This Report is prepared on the lines asked for by the Minister of Health in Circular 2773. In accordance with his directions most information usually contained in the Report is omitted and filed for future reference.

Infectious Disease

There were very few notifications during the year and nothing to call for comment. No cases of Diphtheria were notified. In view of a case of Smallpox occurring in the neighbouring Rural District of Sherborne a vaccination campaign was carried out early in April. A total of 362 persons were vaccinated at the Clinics held in the Borough.

Diphtheria Immunisation

This proceeded satisfactorily throughout the year, a monthly treatment session being held at the Out-patient department of the Westminster Memorial Hospital.

At the 31st December 94% of children of school age and 51% of children under school age had received treatment.

Scabies

The incidence of Scabies was very small throughout the year.

Venereal Disease

No cases of venereal disease were brought to the notice of the Medical Officer of Health during the year.

Evacuation

The number of evacuees remaining in the Borough considerably decreased during the year and the Hostel at Old Boundary road was closed.

Water Supplies

The Borough supply has been satisfactory in quality at the source, but has been chlorinated in accordance with the direction of the Ministry of Health. There was some shortage during the summer months and consumers were asked to exercise economy in the use of the water. Samples for bacteriological examination were taken quarterly and the results were satisfactory. The margin between the amount of water that can be pumped and the daily consumption is small, particularly during the summer months. The whole of Shaftesbury with the exception of a few houses is supplied from the Borough's main supply. The few exceptions have private wells, but these premises are gradually being connected.

Consideration was given during the year to the possibility of supplementing the existing supply, and the water supply specialists who were consulted have submitted a report which favours the development of the springs at Wincombe Park just beyond

the north-eastern boundaries of the Borough. Investigations were still proceeding at the end of the year.

In conclusion I would like to express my appreciation of the courtesy and help afforded to me by your Council and Officers throughout the year.

G. B. SCOTT,

Temporary Medical Officer
of Health.

11th June, 1945.